

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 02676 201939Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
HA-05 INSE-00 VO-05 CA-01 /074 W
-----063952 202105Z /63

R 201827Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1635
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 2676

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PINS, SHUM, VE, NU
SUBJECT: NEWS MAGAZINE DIRECTOR OLAVARRIA SEEKS ASYLUM IN
NICARAGUAN EMBASSY

REF: CARACAS 2333

1. JORGE OLAVARRIA, DIRECTOR OF THE POPULAR NEWSWEEKLY
"RESUMEN", REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM FROM THE NICARAGUAN
EMBASSY THE EVENING OF MARCH 16. AFTER STUDYING A REQUEST
FOR SAFE CONDUCT, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED A STATEMENT GRANTING
THE REQUEST SINCE NICARAGUAN "ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR JUDGING
(OLAVARRIA) A POLITICAL ASYLEE." THE NOTE STATED THAT OLAVARRIA
WAS NOT THE OBJECT OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION. ONE NEWSPAPER REPORTS
HE SOUGHT ASYLUM IN SEVERAL EMBASSIES BEFORE SETTLING ON THE
NICARAGUANS. OLAVARRIA REPORTEDLY WILL LEAVE VENEZUELA MARCH 21
AND WILL STOP IN MIAMI ON HIS WAY TO NICARAGUA.

2. OLAVARRIA HAS BEEN HAVING LEGAL DIFFICULTIES CONCERNING
HIS EX-WIFE'S PROPERTY AND A DEFAMATION OF CHARACTER
SUIT FILED BY LOW LEVEL INFORMATION MINISTRY OFFICIAL.
HE HAS ALSO RAISED HACKLES WITHIN THE GOV FOR REPEATED
POLITICAL AND PERSONAL ATTACKS ON PRESIDENT PEREZ AND,
IN PARTICULAR, ONE MEMBER OF HIS CABINET, PROMPTING AN ILL-CONCEALED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CARACA 02676 201939Z

RETALIATION ORCHESTRATED FROM THE INFORMATION MINISTRY
(SEE REFTEL). OLAVARRIA WAS RELEASED ON BOND IN FEBRUARY, BUT
WAS IMMEDIATELY WENT INTO HIDING WHEN AN ORDER WAS ISSUED FOR HIS
ARREST IN THE DEFAMATION CASE, A NORMAL LEGAL PROCEDURE. RUMORS
HAD FILLED THE LOCAL PAPERS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS THAT HE
WOULD SEEK ASYLUM IN THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY AND HIS TURN TO THE
NICARAGUANS, ALTHOUGH LOGICAL, COMES AS SOMETHING OF A SURPRISE.

OLAVARRIA HAS CHARGED THE GOV WITH HARASSMENT AND POLITICAL PERSECUTION THROUGHOUT HIS TRAVAIL AND HAS NOW CAPPED THESE CHARGES WITH HIS REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM.

COMMENT: BY TURNING TO THE NICARAGUANS, OLAVARRIA IS GIVING ONE LAST NOSE-THUMB TO PEREZ, WHOSE OPPOSITION TO THE SOMOZA REGIME IS A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD. ALSO THE GOV HAS GIVEN ASYLUM TO A NUMBER OF NICARAGUANS IN ITS MANAGUA EMBASSY. BY ASSIGNING THE NICARAGUANS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DETERMINING THE "POLITICAL" MERITS, THE GOV IS SEEKING TO AVOID THE IMPLIED ADMISSION OF PERSECUTION INVOLVED IN GRANTING SAFE CONDUCT TO THIS NATIONAL GADFLY.
VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, MAGAZINES, EDITORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA02676
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780123-0190
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780348/aaaabots.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4054f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CARACAS 2333
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3272391
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEWS MAGAZINE DIRECTOR OLAVARRIA SEEKS ASYLUM IN NICARAGUAN EMBASSY
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, SOPN, SREF, VE, NU, (OLAVARRIA, JORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4054f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014